

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 18, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1535**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Bloom**  
*(Coauthor: Senator Pavley)*

January 21, 2014

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An act to add Section 4052.01 to the Business and Professions Code, relating to pharmacists.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1535, as amended, Bloom. Pharmacists: naloxone hydrochloride.

Existing law, the Pharmacy Law, provides for the licensure and regulation of pharmacists by the California State Board of Pharmacy. Existing law, generally, authorizes a pharmacist to dispense or furnish drugs only pursuant to a valid prescription. Existing law authorizes a pharmacist to furnish emergency contraceptives and hormonal contraceptives pursuant to standardized procedures or protocols developed and approved by both the board and the Medical Board of California, as specified, or developed by the pharmacist and an authorized prescriber. Existing law also authorizes a pharmacist to furnish nicotine replacement products pursuant to standardized procedures or protocols developed and approved by both the board and the Medical Board of California, as specified. Existing law authorizes a licensed health care provider who is permitted to prescribe an opioid antagonist and is acting with reasonable care to prescribe and dispense or distribute an opioid antagonist for the treatment of an opioid overdose to a person at risk of an opioid-related overdose or a family member, friend, or other person in a position to assist a person at risk of an opioid-related overdose.

This bill would authorize a pharmacist to furnish naloxone hydrochloride in accordance with standardized procedures or protocols developed by the pharmacist and an authorized prescriber or developed and approved by both the board and the Medical Board of California. *The bill would require the board and the Medical Board of California, in developing those procedures and protocols, to consider procedures to ensure education of the person to whom the drug is furnished, as specified.* The bill would require a pharmacist to complete a training program on the use of opioid antagonists prior to performing this procedure. *The bill would require each board to enforce these provisions with respect to its respective licensees.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     SECTION 1. Section 4052.01 is added to the Business and  
2     Professions Code, to read:  
3     4052.01. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a  
4     pharmacist may furnish naloxone hydrochloride in accordance  
5     with either of the following:  
6     (1) Standardized procedures or protocols developed by the  
7     pharmacist and an authorized prescriber who is acting within his  
8     or her scope of practice.  
9     (2) Standardized procedures or protocols developed and  
10    approved by both the board and the Medical Board of California.  
11    *In developing standardized procedures or protocols pursuant to*  
12    *this paragraph, the board and the Medical Board of California*  
13    *shall consider procedures to ensure education of the person to*  
14    *whom the drug is furnished, including, but not limited to, opioid*  
15    *overdose prevention, recognition, and response, safe*  
16    *administration of naloxone hydrochloride, potential side effects*  
17    *or adverse events, and the imperative to seek emergency medical*  
18    *care for the patient.*  
19    (b) Prior to performing a procedure authorized under this section,  
20    a pharmacist shall complete a training program on the use of opioid  
21    antagonists that consists of at least one hour of approved continuing  
22    education on the use of naloxone hydrochloride.  
23    (c) *The board and the Medical Board of California are each*  
24    *authorized to ensure compliance with this section. Each board is*

- 1 *specifically charged with enforcing this section with respect to its*
- 2 *respective licensees. This section shall not be construed to expand*
- 3 *the authority of a pharmacist to prescribe any other drug.*

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